UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/50/144
30 January 1996

Fiftieth session
Agenda item 105

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/50/628)]

50/144. Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,

Recalling also its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 1/

Recalling further all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/53 of 3 December 1982, 46/96 of 16 December 1991, 47/88 of 16 December 1992, 48/95 and 48/99 of 20 December 1993 and 49/153 of 23 December 1994,

Taking note of resolution 34/2 of 20 April 1995 of the Commission for Social Development, 2/ wherein it is stated, inter alia, that the Standard Rules are to be monitored within the framework of the sessions of the Commission, and that the purpose of such monitoring is to further their effective implementation,

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1/ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement N°. 4 (E/1995/24), chap. I, sect. E.

Noting with interest the initiative taken by non-governmental organizations to develop a disability index based on the Standard Rules, as well as other activities related to the Standard Rules and activities in support of the World Programme of Action,

Welcoming the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission for Social Development on monitoring the implementation of the Standard Rules and his recommendation that, in the coming two years, the focus should be mainly on legislation, coordination of work, organizations of persons with disabilities, accessibility, education and employment, 3/

Welcoming also the unreserved reaffirmation in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, 4/ of all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and the recognition in both the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 5/ and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development 6/ of a pressing need, among others, for the realization of the goals of full participation in society and the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities, as well as the recognition by the Fourth World Conference on Women, held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995, 7/ of the special needs of women with disabilities,

1. Recalls the recognition by the World Summit for Social Development of the need to promote the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;

2. Urges all Governments and organizations to continue to strengthen their efforts to implement the Standard Rules by appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, taking into account the integrated social development strategy set out in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development; 6/

3. Encourages Governments of Member States to respond to the questionnaire sent by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission for Social Development;

4. Encourages Member States to make contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability to support initiatives on disability, including the important work of the Special Rapporteur;

3/ See A/50/374, annex.

4/ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

5/ Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales N°. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

6 A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

7/ A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1.

5. Calls upon Governments, when implementing the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 1/ to take into account the elements suggested in the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond; 8/

6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure appropriate support for the effective functioning of the Long-term Strategy;

7. Encourages the use of communications networks for the dissemination to the general public of the Standard Rules, the World Programme of Action and the Long-term Strategy;

8. Encourages the Secretary-General, the Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the Secretariat and the United Nations organizations concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, to continue their efforts to facilitate the collection and transmission of relevant data to be used to finalize, in consultation with Member States, the development of global disability indicators, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.

97th plenary meeting
21 December 1995

8/ A/49/435, annex.